## **For Immediate Release**

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## Governor Musgrove Proclaims "Community Health Center Week"

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(Jackson, MS) – Citing the contributions Community Health Centers have made in serving Mississippi's uninsured and the medically underserved, Governor Ronnie Musgrove has proclaimed the week of August 10<sup>th</sup> 2003, as "Community Health Center Week" in Mississippi.

"Mississippi Community Health Centers offer quality and first-rate medical, dental and preventive services to all Mississippians regardless of income, race or age," said Musgrove. "Health equates to hope, and hope is everything. This is precisely what the Mississippi Community Health Centers are giving to Mississippi communities."

There are 22 Community Health Centers located in Mississippi. Community Health Centers have significantly reduced health disparities in the communities they serve and pioneered successes in treating chronic diseases, such as diabetes and hypertension. In addition these centers are corporations developed by and managed by a board of community leaders, and therefore embody the best of public-private partnerships.

"Healthy children are ready, willing, and happy to go to school in the mornings and more equipped to learn. Healthy parents are geared-up and enthusiastic about going to work to provide for their families. Together we are building healthier families, happier communities, and an even better Mississippi," said Musgrove.